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M I N U T E S

Special Meeting

WESTERN WHITE PINE BLISTER RUST CONFERENCE

Portland, Oregon, February 26th, 1926.

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Pursuant to call of the Secretary, the meeting convened at the Multnomah Hotel, Portland, Oregon, at 10:00 o'clock A.M. In the temporary absence of Mr. Park, the Secretary called the meeting to order--Mr. Park arriving and taking the chair soon thereafter.

Mr. Chapman explained briefly that the purpose of the meeting was to consider needed changes in the 10-year program--brought about through spread of the disease southward into Oregon, thereby threatening sugar pine stands of Oregon and California far in advance of expectations and previous predictions. A telegram from Dr. Taylor, Chief, Bureau of Plant Industry, was read in which a meeting of cooperators with representatives of the Bureau of Plant Industry was suggested. It was pointed out by Mr. Chapman that Mr. Detwiler, head of the Office of Blister Rust Control, and Dr. Metcalf, head of the Office of Forest Pathology, as well as Mr. Wyckoff, in charge of western control work, and Messrs. Boyce, Meinecke and Lachmund, engaged in western pathology activities, were here to confer with members of the Conference.

In order that each item in the 10-year program for fiscal year 1927 might be given careful consideration, a conference of workers was held during two days preceding the meeting and all estimates carefully analyzed. Professor Barss and Mr. Chapman represented the Executive Committee at this preliminary conference and Professor Barss was designated to present the report of this group.

It was further pointed out by Mr. Chapman that while the House of Representatives had restored the appropriation to the sum available during 1926, and the Senate Committee had again raised the sum for western work to the $175,000.00 asked by the Conference for the fiscal year 1927, there is not assurance that the Senate action will prevail. In the event this does not come about, the program will be particularly crippled in view of need for speeding up work in Oregon and California.

Professor Barss was then called upon for his report, which follows:

MODIFIED PROGRAM FOR PINE BLISTER RUST

CONTROL IN THE WEST. Presented for consideration by the Western White Pine Blister Rust Conference, Portland, Oregon, February 26th,1926.

(This program is based on the work which needs to be done at the present time in view of the unexpected rapid spread of the disease southward along the coast toward the sugar pine area, and estimates the cost of conducting this work for one year as well as can be done on the basis of previous costs for similar work.)

I-Items and amounts called for under the Original 10-year Blister Rust Control Program.

(For fiscal year 1927)

A. Quarantine Inspection	$17,500.00
B. Studies (through large scale work) of local control and costs in northern commercial white pine areas: (1) In National Forests and Northeast Washington, Idaho and West Montana--$80,500.00 and (2) on state and private land (dollar for dollar cooperation)--$25,000	105,500.00
C. Development of improved methods to be used in local control, reduction of costs and maintenance of efficiency (in the northern section)	10,000.00
D. Small local control experiment in sugar pine forest in California	5,000.00
E. Control reconnaissance and Ribes survey in California sugar pine area	5,000.00
F. Investigational work on the pathology and epidemiology of the disease (Office of Forest Pathology, Bureau of Plant Industry), (method of spread, influence of weather conditions, susceptibility of species of Ribes and capacity to infect pine, distance of spread, damage to pine, using both scientific experiments and recorded scientific observations.)	12,000.00
G. Experimental work by the Office of Blister Rust Control on Chemical Eradication methods and field studies on the ecology of Ribes with a view to predicting the response of Ribes vegetation to natural or artificial conditions such as burning, logging, etc.,	10,000.00
H. Educational work. (To aid in black currant eradication work, to keep timber owners, associations, and the public generally informed on the blister rust situation and the necessity for handling the white and sugar pine resources with this disease in mind	10,000.00
TOTAL	$175,000.00

II-Supplemental Work now needed in view of present development, with estimated costs.

I. Continuance (and eventual completion) of eradication of cultivated black currants in west Montana, Idaho, Washington, Oregon and California.....	$15,000.00
J. Field surveys or inspections or scouting to determine the location of any dangerous centers of pine infection in the Olympic peninsula and to follow the natural advance and establishment of the blister rust in the northern area.....	10,000.00
K. Field surveys and inspection of nurseries in Oregon to determine the spread of the disease from year to year.....	10,000.00
L. Control reconnaissance in Idaho to estimate the blister rust danger in various localities and stand types and to estimate probable costs of control operations (previous work entirely inadequate to needs).....	10,000.00
M. Control reconnaissance in California sugar pine needs besides the $5,000 opposite item "E", an additional.....	5,000.00
N. Studies of local control and its costs in California. In addition to the $5,000 in item "D" is needed also.....	5,000.00
O. Development of improved methods and maintenance of efficiency in local control crew work in California.....	4,000.00
P. Experiments in chemical eradication and studies on ecology of Ribes (Item "G") should be increased by adding.....	5,000.00
Q. Pathological investigation work must be strengthened to permit (1) studies on relative susceptibility, etc., of disease on sugar pine and the associated kinds of Ribes ($3,000.), (2) the extension of the study of northern species of Ribes to localities with more nearly Idaho conditions ($1,500), (3) study of damage by the disease to older pine classes in the Daisy Lake region and the location of typical infected stands of western white pine in British Columbia for permanent damage studies ($4,000), (4) a study of the pine-infecting power of different species of Ribes, especially R. lacustre at Revelstoke ($1,000).....	9,500.00
Total for Supplemental Work.....	$73,500.00
Estimate for 1927 (original 10-year program).....	175,000.00
GRAND TOTAL	$248,500.00

Need of commencing work such as is in province of Forest Service and which it can do through forest experiment station work on present pine growth and future possibilities as a basis for introducing pine blister rust control into forest management on national and private holdings. Start would take about $8,000 a year. Not included in 10-year program, since such studies are outside the province of the program, although closely allied and necessary to its success.

At the conclusion of Professor Barss' report, Mr. Park called upon Dr. Metcalf for comment: He pointed out that the original program contemplated ability to carry the work in Idaho and northern States well toward completion before great activity in southern Oregon and California would be required. Discovery of the disease in Oregon the past year has upset these plans and it now looks as though two parallel battle lines must soon be maintained to serve both white and sugar pine areas.

Mr. Detwiler spoke to the effect that the 10-year blister rust control program must naturally undergo development and adjustment to meet conditions as they arose. He pointed to the fact that the time will come when the timber owners, states and federal government must apply in a large way the blister rust control methods which are being worked out by the Bureau of Plant Industry. At the present time, there is great need to determine as accurately as possible where it will pay to grow white and sugar pine in spite of the costs of control and where it would be better to let other species take their place. This requires forest growth studies as well as the studies of control methods and costs now being conducted.

Dr. Meinecke spoke of the Forest Service attitude toward growing of sugar pine as he interpreted it, such being that in certain localities it is an indispensable species but in others can perhaps be replaced by those not subject to the same danger from destructive diseases.

Mr. Bush asked how close to sugar pine the rust now existed and was informed it was within about 170 miles, having in one year made a jump from southwest Washington to a point some 80 miles south of the Columbia River. In this connection Mr. Detwiler and others pointed out that climatic conditions in the coast region are even more favorable to spread of the disease than those in the north Idaho and eastern British Columbia region. On the coast, as we go southward, currants and gooseberries hold their leaves over winter and this might well result in over-wintering of the disease on Ribes. It was also pointed out that the disease is well established on the Olympic Peninsula and this will form a region from which a large spore crop will be available for long distance spreading during favorable times.

A telegram from the California White and Sugar Pine Manufacturers Association and California Forest Protective Association was then presented which had direct bearing on data which should be collected by the Department of Agriculture to guide timber owners in deciding on advisable steps to protect their properties against the blister rust.

Mr. Morrell requested information regarding the present status of funds for conduct of work with particular reference to any available for growth and yield studies of white pine. It was pointed out that the present estimates before the Department did not carry any items for expansion through taking up very necessary new activities.

Then followed very general discussion of advisability and need for attempting the securing of an emergency appropriation to supplement what

Congress provides in the regular bill for fiscal year 1927. Messrs.Kjosness, Bush, Humiston, Joy and others expressed the opinion that expansion was necessary to carry the work to Oregon and California and in a more vigorous manner, but there was some question as to asking our Western delegations, in view of their recent efforts, to assume the burden of again urging funds for this purpose at the present session of Congress.

Afternoon session was called to order by Chairman Park at 1:40 P.M.

Professor Barss offered the following motion. Before voting on the motion, each item of the proposed $73,500 increase was again read and discussed.

> "Moved that this Conference accepts and approves the report presented, setting forth in detail the need of an expanded program for blister rust control in the West and the estimates showing the required items and cost for supplemental work amounting to $73,500 above the original 10-year program estimates for the fiscal year 1927."

The motion was regularly seconded and carried.

The following resolution was then presented for consideration by the Conference:

> "Careful study of the white pine blister rust situation in the Pacific Northwest shows conclusively that a serious emergency exists by reason of the spread of the disease southward into Oregon, thereby threatening, in advance of expectations, valuable sugar pine stands of southern Oregon and California.
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> "In view of this it is earnestly believed that the ten-year program must be speeded up to meet this emergency and after due consideration it is the belief of this Conference that an additional sum in the amount of $73,500 of Federal funds is required, over and above the amount estimated for the fiscal year 1927, for this purpose.
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> "We, therefore, respectfully request that this additional sum be made available at the earliest possible moment through an emergency appropriation, or if this is not possible, at this time, that this added sum be included in estimates of the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year 1928. And we further urge that in the event Congress fails to appropriate $175,000 as called for under our original 10-year program, that especial effort be made to successfully present to Congress need for this increase, effective for the fiscal year 1927.
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> "It is the sense of this Conference that this resolution, together with a detailed statement of the need for additional

funds be sent the Secretary of Agriculture and Chief Bureau of Plant Industry for such action as in their judgment seems desirable."

Dr. Meinecke, at the conclusion of the reading of the resolution, suggested that in transmitting it to the Department a letter should accompany it, setting forth the need for the added funds at an early date as data to be collected would not be available until after studies were made covering a considerable period.

The resolution was then unanimously adopted.

Mr. Chapman then suggested that there was great need for careful studies of yield of white and sugar pine similar to those which have been conducted for the Douglas fir. This need had been realized by Mr. Morrell and Mr. Wyckoff and it had been suggested that funds from the white pine blister rust appropriation be used for such work, if necessary, in view of its important bearing on advisability of blister rust control. It was the opinion, however, that such work was a function of the Forest Experiment Stations and that the Forest Service and Bureau of Plant Industry should be strongly urged to work out means for carrying it forward.

Mr. Morrell spoke on this subject, as did Mr. Hubert and others.

A resolution, which follows, covering this subject was then presented and unanimously adopted:

> The Conference recognizes the fact that ultimate control of white pine blister rust in the forests of western United States is dependent upon information to be secured on the one hand by the Bureau of Plant Industry as to the proper methods and costs of local control and, on the other hand by the foresters as to future yield and value of present stands of reproduction which stand in the path of the disease. It will be necessary for each and every owner of white pines including the Forest Service as the administrator of the National Forests to reach a definite decision on whether or not blister rust local control is to be applied to each and every pine growing unit of land. Each unit of orest land must be judged on its own merits and values. In order to make this decision it will be necessary that the owner balance the future value of these reproductive stands against the cost of local control. It is the belief of this Conference that such information on the future value of reproductive stands is not now available. The Conference therefore requests that the Forest Service immediately undertake adequate studies of yield and financial possibilities of present and future reproductive stands of western white and sugar pines to the end that the practical possibilities of adequate blister rust control on these pine areas be known. In order that this information may be speedily obtained it is suggested that the Chief Forester, Forest Service confer with Chief of the Bureau of Plant

Industry as to ways and means of having Congress appropriate such sums as are required for as many years as are necessary for the completion of these studies by the Forest Service."

The following resolution was then presented by Professor Barss and unanimously adopted:

"Resolved that the Secretary be instructed to transmit the resolutions of this Conference to the Secretary of Agriculture, Chief of Bureau of Plant Industry and Head of the Forest Service, with a letter setting forth the emergency situation and conveying the point of view and belief of the Conference that delaying the work called for is bound to increase the losses sustained by the advance of the disease into the regions menaced."

It was then moved, seconded and carried that a letter be sent members of our Western Congressional delegation, thanking them in the name of the Conference for their untiring efforts in support of the 10-year program.

Upon motion regularly made, seconded and carried, the Secretary was instructed to transmit to Dr. Taylor the appreciation of this Conference for the work of the Offices of Blister Rust Control and Forest Pathology, as well as our entire confidence in their ability successfully to cope with the Western blister rust situation.

There being no further business to transact, the meeting adjourned in due form.

C. S. Chapman,

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY.

ATTENDANCE

Special meeting--Western White Pine Blister Rust Conference
Portland,Oregon, February 26th,1926.

Ames, F. E.	Forest Service,Portland,Oregon.
Barss, H. P.	Oregon Agricultural College,Corvallis,Oregon.
Boyce, J. S.	Bureau of Plant Industry, Portland, Oregon.
Brischle, H. A.	Bureau of Plant Industry, Portland, Oregon.
Bush, Ben E.	State Forester, Moscow,Idaho.
Chapler, R. H.	Western Forestry & Conservation Ass'n.,Portland,Oregon.
Chapman, C. S.	WeyerhaeuserTimber Company, Tacoma,Washington.
Detwiler, S. B.	Chief Office Blister Rust Control, Washington, D. C.
Dougall, John T.	Columbia River Loggers Information Bureau,Portland,Ore.
Elliott, F. A.	State Forester, Salem, Oregon.
Goodding, L. N.	Office of Blister Rust Control, Corvallis, Oregon.
Hubert, E. E.	University of Idaho, Moscow,Idaho.
Humiston, W. D.	Potlatch Lumber Company, Potlatch, Idaho.
Joy, George C.	State Superintendent of Forestry, Olympia,Washington.
King, Porter S.	State Forestry Department, Salem, Oregon.
Kjosness, A. W. B.	Commissioner of Agriculture, Boise, Idaho.
Lachmund, H. G.	Bureau of Plant Industry, Portland, Oregon.
MacDaniels, E. H.	Forest Service, Portland, Oregon.
Meinecke, Dr. E. P.	Office Forest Pathology, San Francisco,California.
Merriam, L.	Mason & Stevens, Portland, Oregon.
Metcalf, Dr. H.	Chief Office Forest Pathology, Washington, D. C.
Mielke, Jas. L.	Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis,Oregon.
Morrell, Fred	District Forester, Missoula, Montana.
Munger, T. T.	Pacific Northwest Forest Experiment Station,Portland,Ore.
Park, C. A.	President Oregon State Board of Horticulture,Salem,Ore.
Partington, Clyde N.	Office Forest Pathology, Portland, Oregon.
Segersten, A. A.	Forester & Timberman, Portland,Oregon.
Wyckoff, S. N.	Office of Blister Rust Control, Spokane,Washington.